When Families Turn to the Market …

Gender Dimensions of Outsourcing Personal and Household Services: Politics, Markets and Inequalities in East Asian and European Comparison

November 20 – 21, 2015
Collegio Carlo Alberto, Moncalieri (Torino) and Hotel Genova, via Sacchi, Torino

Organizers: Karen Shire and Margarita Estevez-Abe

Workshop Idea and Format

Recent fiscal, welfare and employment policies in market economies around the world are seeking to shift the unpaid labour of housewives and other household members into paid employment relations, often in private sector service markets. Behind many of these policies is the aim to activate educated women with care and domestic responsibilities to either rejoin or increase their attachments to the labor force, while creating jobs for less educated women with fewer job opportunities.

This workshop brings together experts in research on the politics and practice of personal and household service work, including childcare and eldercare, to explore further research directions and possible collaborations.

Preceding the workshop is a doctoral and postdoctoral seminar, where young scholars directly associated with the experts are invited to present and exchange their research related to family and demographic changes, social care, migration and mobility of domestic and care workers and the activation of female labor. The aim of this activity is to strengthen networks among young scholars in East Asia and Europe involved in family, social welfare and employment research in the social sciences, including economics, political science and sociology. A specific focus is attached to East Asian cases, to encourage inter-regional comparative exchange and research. Several experts in East Asian and European research on these topics will be available to comment on doctoral and postdoctoral projects.

The proposed format for the subsequent expert workshop is a mix of paper presentations and moderated discussion panels, with specific aims for outcomes (publication and joint research). Panel participants are asked to give a brief statement (10 minutes) on the state of their own research and knowledge on the subject, and for how to move research forward. Most of the time is reserved for moderated discussion. The final panel is devoted to outcomes. The workshop is
Workshop Schedule

Day 1:
Friday, November 20, 9:00 – 18:30, Sala Rossa, Collegio Carlo Alberto, via Real Collegio 30, Moncalieri (Torino)

9:00 – 13:00
PART I: Doctoral/Postdoctoral Workshop:
Social Institutions in Transformation: Families, Care and Welfare

*8:10 Departure from Hotel Genova to Moncalieri (Shire will lead)

9.00 – 9.30 Arrival and Introductions

9:30 – 10:00 Alison Lamont (UDE): Reconstructing Family, Reconstructing Welfare: Post-earthquake family policy in China


10:30 – 11:00 Sarah See (CCA): Parental Inputs, Formal Care and Child Outcomes

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:00 Hongjin Oh (UDE): Recent Care Policies and Their Effects on the Welfare Mix in South Korea and Japan

12:00 – 12:30 Aimi Murakawa (UDE): Initial Ideas for a Doctoral Thesis about New Migration Paths to Japan

12:30 – 13:00 Final Discussion – Social Institutions in Transformation

Comments by Prof. Feng Xu, Victoria University, Canada; Prof. Patrick Heinrich, Ca’ Fosca University, Venice Italy; Prof. Barbara Hobson, Stockholm University, Prof. Emiko Ochiai, Kyoto University and Blaise Pascal Chair, Paris, Dr. Thomas Paster, post-doc Collegio Carlo Alberto and other participants from the Collegio and Uni Torino
13.00 – 14.30 Lunch in-house

**Part II: Expert Workshop – When Families Turn to the Market**

15:00 – 18:30

**Session 1: Households, Markets and Domestic Services in Comparative Perspective** (paper session)

*Moderator: Tiziana Nazio*

15.00 – 16.30
Barbara Hobson  
*What Do Private Markets Do? The Widening Gap in Capabilities among Users and Non-users of Care/domestic Services in Spain and Sweden*

16.30 – 17.00  
Coffee Break

17:00 – 18.30
Zenia Hellgren  
*Financial Crisis and Migrant Domestic Workers in Madrid and Barcelona: Employment Opportunities and Conditions during the Great Recession*

18.30 Return to Hotel Genova by Taxi

20.00 Dinner (location to be confirmed)
Day 2 – Continuation of Expert Workshop

Saturday, November 21, 9:00 – 17:00, Meeting Room, Hotel Genova, Via Sacchi, Torino

9:00 – 11.00  
**Session 2: Personal and Household Service Labour and Inequalities**  
*Who are the workers and what are their employment situations?* (panel format)

The panel will focus on the range of issues raised in the Paris July 2015 meeting on understanding who does this work and under which conditions, the inequalities emerging between workers, based in migration status, contract forms, comparisons with other service sectors, and comparisons across Europe. Goals should include deciding whether the participants have the basis already for a joint comparative publication or whether to plan further coordinated comparative research.

*Moderator: Nathalie Morel*  
Proposed Topics and Statements (10 minutes):

- Organizations Providing Household Services and their Workforces (Clemence Ledoux, Karen Shire)
- Contractual and Spatial Dimensions of Labor Force and Consequences for Complex Inequalities (Eleonore Kofman, Feng Xu, Franca van Hooren)

11.00 – 11.30  
Coffee Break

11.30 – 13.30  
**Session 3: Personal and Household Service Markets and Provision in Inter-regional comparison** (panel format)

*Moderator: Eleonore Kofmann*  
Proposed Topics and Statements (10 minutes each):

- Dynamics of Care Arrangements in European, North American and Asian Comparison (Emiko Ochiai)
- Implications of Turns to the Market for Welfare Provision and Distribution in Europe and Asia (Nathalie Morel, Margarita Estevez-Abe)

Wrap-up discussion of Sessions 1, 2 and 3

13.30 – 15.00  
Lunch Buffet in Hotel
15.00 – 17.00

**Session 4: Final Discussion**

Concrete proposals for joint research and generating new data resources
(Moderator: Karen Shire)

Concrete proposals for joint publications (Moderator: Barbara Hobson)

**End of Workshop**

(Informal meeting over Aperitivo, location in Torino to be announced)